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Ontario Department
of Education

School Planning and Building Research

A marked increase and changes in school buildings led to the establishment of the School Planning and Building Research office in June 1964. The office helps to guide plans anticipating the future needs of school buildings. It investigates methods of making proper use of space to meet the educational program and researches new building techniques and materials to achieve economic design and construction. Its services include the publication of brochures; a consultation service to those involved in school building, and conducting annual workshops.

Activities

The office determines the facilities needed for existing educational programs; anticipates planning changes that may occur through the development of learning methods; and evaluates curriculum changes in schools for junior, intermediate and senior students and in post-secondary facilities, such as Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology, to determine the likely effect of these changes on school facilities.

It also conducts research in the area of special education, including schools for the deaf, blind and emotionally disturbed.

A cost analysis group investigates the nature and trend of school and college construction costs, undertakes reviews of expenditures and continually studies the provincial capital grant plan.

Publications

The office publishes brochures providing information based on current school building research. These brochures are used by members of school boards, members of boards of governors of the colleges, administrators, architects, planners and engineers.

Consultation

The office provides a consultation service for those involved in school building. It co-operates with the Ontario Teachers' Federation, school business officials and others. Contacts are maintained with other provinces, UNESCO agencies, and school research groups throughout the world.

Workshops

Annual design workshops are held to:

- correlate and exchange the knowledge of educators and other professionals responsible for directing and planning educational facilities throughout Ontario;
- develop an understanding of the philosophies and objectives of authorities and individuals interested in education and school design;
- convey the office's research results, and discuss and exchange ideas and problems with educators, administrators, architects, engineers and manufacturers.

Publications issued by School Planning and Building Research

Physical Education Facilities for Secondary Schools (1965)

Guidance Centres for Secondary Schools (1965)

Library Materials Centres for Secondary Schools (1966)

Business and Commerce Facilities for Secondary Schools (1966)

Rehabilitation of Schools (1966)

Site — Principles of Site Development, Elementary Schools K-6 (1967)

School Design Forum (An Account of School Design Workshops) (1967)

Guidelines for Planning Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (1967)

Home Economics (1968)

Library Resource Centres for Elementary Schools (1968)

Technical and Occupational Shops, Volume I (1968)

Science Laboratories for Secondary Schools (1968)

Reports on Various Construction Contracts (1968)

Special Education Facilities for Emotionally Disturbed Children (1968)

Physical Education Facilities for Elementary Schools (1969)

Music Facilities (1969)

Technical and Occupational Shops, Volume II (1969)

Industrial Arts for Elementary and Secondary Schools (1969)

Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology, Master Planning (1969)

Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology Movement and Growth Patterns (1969)

Dorm 8 — An Experimental Social Study (Schools for the Blind and the Deaf) (1969)

An Experimental Student Housing Study (1969)

Schools and Playgrounds for Trainable Mentally Handicapped Children (1970)

Social Environments for a Regional Centre for the Hearing Handicapped (1970)

Relocatable Learning Facilities (1970)

Schools for Intermediate Students (1971)

Thermal Environment in Schools (1971)

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